

Hon. Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero  
Maga'håga, Islan Guåhan  
Office of The Governor of Guam  
Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex  
513 West Marine Corps Drive  
Hagatna, Guam 96910

**RE: Request to discuss the U.S. Military's continued desecration of sacred ancestral sites and native habitats**

Hafa Adai Governor Leon Guerrero,

June 18, 2019

The undersigned organizations and community stakeholders urgently request a meeting with you to discuss recent news of the persisting desecration of sacred, historically and culturally significant artifacts and sites like Magua village resulting from military buildup construction. We echo recent requests for a halt to the clearing of vegetation and construction of the Marine's Cantonment at Finegayan and of the Live Fire Training Range Complex at Northwest Field, where the ancient village of Tai'lalo stands to meet the same fate as Magua if we do nothing to protect it.

Since May, four ancestral sites have been haphazardly and disrespectfully "discovered" by the military at their construction sites. Among the discoveries were latte, lusong, an earthen oven, and other tools. We have cringed as we've seen photos circulating of these sacred artifacts cracked into pieces or removed from their original location without our consultation or consent. In the rush to level our native limestone forests to make way for military construction plans, the military has knowingly destroyed artifacts and natural resources that belong to the people of Guam. In public statements they have been released about the desecration of these sites, the military continues to say that adverse impacts are "unavoidable due to proposed developments on the site (*Guam Daily Post*)."

However, adverse impacts are avoidable with a halt to construction.

We write to you as our Maga'håga because we cannot keep driving along Route 3 feeling powerless as we gaze through fences at hundreds of acres of deforested native habitat, mourning the loss of the endemic and healing plants that had been thriving there. We do not want to read about another desecrated sacred site. Enough is enough. Our island has reached a point in our history where only a few of these historic sites and native limestone forests remain. We look to you to be our voice, and to help us fight to protect them for future generations to learn and thrive from.

We hope that we can meet with you at your earliest convience. For more information and to schedule a meeting, kindly contact Maria Hernandez at [hernandezm2086@outlook.com](mailto:hernandezm2086@outlook.com).

Kon Respetu,

Independent Guåhan  
Prutehi Litekyan  
Fuetsan Famalao'an  
Nasion CHamoru  
Mañe'lon Marianas  
Manhoben Para Guåhan  
Guåhan Coalition for Peace and Justice  
Our Islands Are Sacred  
Håya Foundation  
Chief Hurao, Inc.

Duk Duk Goose, Inc. (Nihi!)  
GCC EcoWarriors  
ChamGlam Botanika  
Health Shack  
Z's Green Canteen  
Alternative Zero Coalition  
Pågan Watch  
Micronesia Climate Alliance  
The Peace for Okinawa Coalition  
David Lotz